



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*un*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/796,656

03/09/2004

Yoshitaka Hamada

035576/275601

2186

826

7590

03/07/2007

ALSTON & BIRD LLP

BANK OF AMERICA PLAZA

101 SOUTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4000

CHARLOTTE, NC 28280-4000

EXAMINER

SMOOT, STEPHEN W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2813

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/07/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/796,656	HAMADA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Stephen W. Smoot	2813	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 20 February 2007 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☒ entered.

b) ☐ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

*Stephen W. Smoot*

Stephen W. Smoot  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2813